

My first introduction to radio taught me that we are "guardians of the airwaves". Throughout my 30 year career, I have strived to make sure that my stations reflect the interests of our community. We program locally, and thus can be responsive to community needs as they change. We regularly air community service issues. We are in an agreement with KJRH, the NBC affiliate here, to air weather. Weather is important in Oklahoma. We participate in AMber, and EAS. During the Murrow building bombing, our sister station KMGL was the first cruiser on premises and fed us live updates as the situation unfolded. During 9-11, we carried up-to-the-minute updates all day. Our announcers were on the streets helping to dispel a "gas shortage panic" that occurred in Tulsa.

It is difficult for me to understand how the government thinks it can know what is important for Tulsans better than we who live and work here do.

We broadcasters already groan under restrictions and regulations. The government should never forget that we are business people. The only way that the airwaves will remain free is if we can stay in business. That means making a profit. Heaven help our system of government if a free press ( I use that term generically) does not survive.